



BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION
& HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
(518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Cynthia Howk DATE: Dec., 1994
133 S. Fitzhugh St.
YOUR ADDRESS: Rochester, NY 14608 TELEPHONE: 546-7029
ORGANIZATION (if any): The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc.

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME(S) Hartman - Foos House
2. COUNTY: Monroe TOWN/CITY: Greece VILLAGE: ---
3. STREET LOCATION: 543 Mill Road
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public ☐ b. private ☒
5. PRESENT OWNER: Anne M. Foos ADDRESS: (same) Rochester, NY 14626
6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes ☒ No ☐
Interior accessible: Explain private residence

DESCRIPTION

8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard ☐ b. stone ☐ c. brick ☐ d. board and batten ☐
e. cobblestone ☒ f. shingles ☐ g. stucco ☐ other: _____
Roof = asphalt shingles. Foundation = fieldstone.
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints ☐
b. wood frame with light members ☐
(if known) c. masonry load bearing walls ☒
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
10. CONDITION: a. excellent ☐ b. good ☒ c. fair ☐ d. deteriorated ☐
11. INTEGRITY: a. original site ☒ b. moved ☐ if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

(see continuation sheet)

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:

"Here's another cobblestone house. I don't think it's as strong as the others in the town - the modern front porch is a distraction and masks the front of the house. This is a 'red minus' due to the modern porch." P.Malo.

COLOR CODE

Red minus



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known ☒ b. zoning ☐ c. roads ☐
d. developers ☐ e. deterioration ☐
f. other: _____
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
a. barn ☐ b. carriage house ☐ c. garage ☒
d. privy ☐ e. shed ☐ f. greenhouse ☐
g. shop ☐ h. gardens ☐
i. landscape features: mature deciduous trees; coniferous shrubs
j. other: _____
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
a. open land ☒ b. woodland ☒ - to south of property
c. scattered buildings ☐
d. densely built-up ☒ e. commercial ☐
f. industrial ☐ g. residential ☒
h. other: _____
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

(see continuation sheet)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

(see continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1830s - 1852

ARCHITECT: not determined

BUILDER: not determined

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

(see continuation sheet)

21. SOURCES: (see continuation sheet)

22. THEME: agricultural: former farm residence ; cobblestone architecture.

11c.

The shed-roofed, front porch appears to have been added late 19th- or early 20th-century; now glass enclosed, mid-20th century.

Contemporary, one-story, gable-roofed, cobblestone-and-wood shingle, rear (south) addition appears to have been added to the house after the 1959 map.

Contemporary, concrete block chimney on the west elevation added to the house, early/mid-20th century.

17. The Hartmann-Foos House is located on a 2.2-acre lot on the south side of Mill Road in the southwest quadrant of the town. A driveway is located to the west of the house and it leads to a non-contributing, contemporary, concrete block, two-car garage. To the south, behind the house, is undeveloped woodland. A short distance to the west is Manitou Road. The surrounding neighborhood is mostly post-World War II housing.

18. One-and-one-half-story, side-gabled, cobblestone farmhouse with a contemporary, one-story, gable-roofed rear (south) wing. The main block, with its side gables, is four-bays-wide by two-bays-deep. The house stands on a fieldstone foundation. Fenestration is regular and symmetrical with 1/1, double hung windows. The windows have stone (probably limestone) lintels and sills. At the southeast, northeast, and northwest corners are Medina sandstone quoins. The southwest corner retains only one (the uppermost) of its quoins; the others have been removed and re-installed on the southwest corner of the adjoining contemporary rear wing.

Under the low-pitched, gabled roof is a wide, Greek Revival style cornice and gable-end returns. The north, south and west elevations are constructed of small cobblestones laid in courses. The east elevation, however, is constructed with cobblestone courses at the gable, south and lower parts of the wall, but has a large, central area constructed with Medina-type sandstone. The explanation for this center section of stone infill has not been determined; it is possible that there was a structural failure that required re-construction of the wall at some time (and they were unable to repair this section with similar cobblestone masonry). There are other areas where repair work is visible

18. continued

(west end of the facade, next to the quoins). At present, the top part of the west wall appears to be bowing out (note position of the gable window; it is no longer in a completely vertical position.)

The facade porch appears to date from the early-20th century. It is now enclosed with four-paned, contemporary, wood storm windows

The one-story, gable-roofed, rear (south) wing appears to have been added onto the house after the 1959 map (where is is not shown on the "footprint" of the building). The west elevation of this addition is constructed with cobblestone, laid in courses to resemble the original historic masonry of the house. Several of the Medina sandstone quoins, originally located on the southwest corner of the main house, have been re-installed on the southwest corner of this recent addition. The east elevation of this contemporary wing features wood shingle and stone cladding. Contemporary, sliding glass doors, exterior steps and handrailing are also located on the east elevation

A non-contributing, contemporary, two-car garage of concrete block is located to the west of the house. The front lawn includes a 20th-century, metal flagpole, stone sidewalk, wrought iron c. 1970s ranch light and handrailings.

20. The Hartman-Foos House is architecturally significant as a distinctive example of mid-19th-century, Greek Revival cobblestone farmhouse retaining a high degree of integrity of design, materials, and craftsmanship. It is one of four extant cobblestone buildings in the town of Greece. (Ironically, it was not included in Carl F. Schmidt's in-depth study of this building type, "Cobblestone Masonry;" it is possible that he did not know of its existence, as other regional examples have been omitted). The house is also historically significant for its long association with the Hartman family, who were early settlers and owners of this property from the 1850s-early 1900s.

The 1852 county map shows a building on this site and "D. Hartman" as the owner. The road is un-named. Because of its Greek Revival design, this building is most likely the one shown on the 1852 map. Greek Revival architecture was popular from the 1830s-1860. Because of its great

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popularity, it was often called the National Style. Cobblestone architecture is a construction method whose buildings are found principally in New York State and represents a period of not more than 30 years (approximately 1830s-1860s) when this construction method was used.

The 1872 county map shows this property as lot 11, owned by D. Hartman. The house is shown and a creek is located just to the west. The road is un-named (although it was called "Podunk Road," prior to being named Mill Road).

The 1902 county map shows this property as a 20.6-acre parcel with M.S. Hartman as owner. The house is the only building indicated on the map. The road is marked as "Mill Road."

The 1924 county map shows this property as a 19.5-acre parcel with G. Schieman as owner. The house is shown and a small, frame outbuilding is indicated to the southwest. Although this may have been a working farm at some point, there are no indications of agricultural outbuildings (barns, sheds, etc.) on the maps. The 1930 suburban directory lists Joseph M. and Annie Foos at this address; he is listed as a wood carver.

The 1959 county map shows that the property has been subdivided. This site, with the house and garage, is a smaller parcel of 2.2 acres owned by A.M. Foos. To the south, 17.5 acres (formerly part of this parcel) have been sold to G.E. and E.C. Pointon.

The Hartman-Foos House is architecturally significant as a distinctive example of the cobblestone method of construction in New York State. This cobblestone farmhouse property may be eligible for listing in the State and National Registers of Historic Places. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of cobblestone construction in its use of lake-washed cobblestones laid in horizontal rows and bonded with limestone mortar, the use of stone quoins to decorate and stabilize the corners of the building, and the use of stone sills and lintels at window and door openings. Typical of the Middle Period (c. 1835 - c. 1845) of cobblestone construction, the house features water-rounded stones of various shapes, sizes, and colors laid five courses to a quoin height.

The house is additionally significant as a representative

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example of mid-19th century Greek Revival, rural domestic architecture in the town of Greece. It displays a Greek Revival form and plan, i.e. the one-and-one-half-story, rectangular main block. It also embodies the distinctive features of the style in its symmetrical fenestration, and its wide wood frieze with exaggerated cornice returns.

21. See final report for bibliography.

